

Message Text

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TAGS:CSCE, PFOR, PL, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO CSCE COMMISSION

1. THE FOURTH SEMIANNUAL REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT TO THE
CSCE COMMISSION WAS RELEASED JUNE 6. IT COVERS
THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 1977 TO JUNE 1, 1978. THE FOLLOWING
PASSAGES ON POLAND APPEAR IN THE BASKET III PORTION:

2. IN THE SUBSECTION ON REUNIFICATION BEGIN QUOTE: WHILE
THE POLISH GOVERNMENT RESOLVED 35 REUNIFICATION CASES BEFORE
PRESIDENT CARTER'S DECEMBER VISIT, AND WHILE WE VALUE EVERY
SUCH CASE RESOLVED, POLAND'S OVERALL RECORD ON FAMILY RE-
UNIFICATION REMAINS IN GLARING CONTRADICTION TO THE COMMIT-
MENTS AGREED UPON AT HELSINKI. THE LEVELS OF SUCH EMIGRA-
TION HAVE, ON THE AVERAGE, DECLINED SINCE 1966 AND REMAIN
LOWER NOW THAN BEFORE SIGNATURE OF THE FINAL ACT. AT THE
SAME TIME, THE NUMBER OF UNRESOLVED HARDSHIP CASES HAS
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INCREASED STEADILY TO BECOME THE HIGHEST IN THE WARSAW PACT.
DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD, BOTH PRESIDENT CARTER AND
SECRETARY VANCE RAISED ISSUES OF EMIGRATION AND FAMILY RE-
UNIFICATION DURING THEIR DECEMBER VISIT TO POLAND, AND WE
EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN TO THE POLISH GOVERNMENT REGARDING
THESE MATTERS ON OTHER OCCASIONS AS WELL. WE WILL CONTINUE
IN THE FUTURE TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS ON THIS ISSUE, WHICH

IS AMONG THE MOST SERIOUS IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.
END QUOTE.

3. IN THE SUBSECTION ON FAMILY VISITS, BEGIN QUOTE:
THE SOVIET UNION AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA CONTINUED TO HAVE
THE STRICTEST POLICIES IN THIS REGARD, WHILE POLAND'S
RECORD REMAINED MIXED. ALTHOUGH THOUSANDS OF POLISH-
AMERICANS RETURN TO POLAND FOR FAMILY VISITS EACH YEAR,
WE HAVE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO RAISE WITH POLISH AUTHORI-
TIES A NUMBER OF CASES OF UNEXPLAINED VISA DENIALS,
INCLUDING SOME TO FORMER POLES OF JEWISH BACKGROUND
WHO LEFT POLAND IN THE LATE 1960'S. BECAUSE FAMILY
VISITS ARE NO LESS A HUMANITARIAN OBJECTIVE OF THE
FINAL ACT THAN PERMANENT FAMILY REUNIFICATION, WE CON-
TINUED TO WATCH OFFICIALLY STIFLED REQUESTS FOR SUCH
VISITS AND TO REPRESENT SPECIFIC CASES TO THE GOVERNMENTS
CONCERNED. END QUOTE.

4. IN THE SUBSECTION ON RELIGIOUS CONTACTS AND INFORMA-
TION, BEGIN QUOTE: IN POLAND, AUTHORITIES INVITED
JEWISH LEADERS, INCLUDING MANY FROM ISRAEL, TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW
GHETTO UPRISING. THERE WERE ALSO VISITS BY AMERICAN
JEWISH LEADERS AND BY AMERICAN CATHOLIC OFFICIALS. IT
WAS ANNOUNCED AS WELL THAT EVANGELIST BILLY GRAHAM WOULD
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VISIT POLAND THIS FALL. END QUOTE. VANCE

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